

UP4HEALTH and ALEHOOP present a final event: Innovation and Sustainability in European Bioeconomy

- *The UP4HEALTH and ALEHOOP projects are organizing a joint event that will present the achievements and technological advancements developed during the lifetime projects, focusing on the valorization of agro-industrial by-products to create natural and sustainable ingredients.*
- *This event will take place online on December 13, 2024, and will feature prominent speakers who will showcase the results from the various work packages of each project.*

Madrid, Spain. 28 November 2024 – The European projects **UP4HEALTH** and **ALEHOOP**, funded under the Horizon 2020 program, are organizing a final event to present their achievements and results on December 13, 2024. This webinar, open to researchers, industry professionals, regulators, and the general public, will highlight the innovative and sustainable solutions developed by both projects within the European bioeconomy sector.

During the event, technological advancements will be presented regarding the transformation of agro-industrial by-products (such as grape, olive, and nut residues) into high-value ingredients with applications in the food, beverage, cosmetics, and nutraceutical sectors. The conclusion of **UP4HEALTH** in December 2024 marks a milestone in the creation of an integrated biorefinery that utilizes these residues, responding to the growing market demand for more natural and sustainable products.

"The success of UP4HEALTH lies in our ability to transform agro-industrial waste into high-quality functional ingredients, showcasing the true potential of a circular economy," stated Manuel Roman, coordinator of the **UP4HEALTH** project. ***"With over 100 tons of olive and grape waste recycled annually, we have made a significant step towards sustainable production while meeting the most stringent safety and quality standards in the food industry."*** concluded the coordinator.

Scheduled from 12:00 to 14:30 (CET), the event will take place online, bringing together experts from both projects to showcase their technological advancements and achievements and will be structured into two engaging sessions.

The first session will focus on the achievements of the **UP4HEALTH** project, beginning with a presentation from ISANATUR on their work in transforming olive, grape, and nut by-products into high-value functional ingredients. Javier Saez from CONTACTICA will then discuss how the project optimized production processes with a life-cycle approach to ensure both eco-design and scalability. The session will conclude with insights from Filipa Reis and Rossana Cardoso of the Polytechnic Institute of Bragança, who will discuss the bioactivity and bioavailability of **UP4HEALTH's** ingredients in final applications, showcasing their effectiveness and potential benefits for consumers.



The second session will showcase the achievements of the **ALEHOOP** project, starting with biomass management and protein extraction from legume by-products, led by ANFACO, TECNALIA, and UVIGO. CONTACTICA will present the sustainable scale-up of the process, while UVIGO will discuss the bioavailability of these proteins for human food applications.

The session will also highlight the validation of green macroalgae proteins for animal feed (Nutrition Sciences) and proteins from legumes and brown macroalgae for human food products (VIDARA). It will conclude with regulatory aspects presented by TU Dublin, followed by a Q&A session for attendees. ***"The collaboration between UP4HEALTH and ALEHOOP is a testament to the power of European innovation in transforming traditional industries,"*** stated coordinator of the ALEHOOP project. ***"Together, we are demonstrating how waste can become a source of value and contribute to a more sustainable future."***

This event will offer a unique opportunity for participants to engage with cutting-edge developments in bioeconomy, learn about sustainable solutions, and explore the potential of agro-industrial by-products in creating innovative and natural products.

To register for free and learn more about the final event of **UP4HEALTH** and **ALEHOOP**, please visit the registration link:

About UP4HEALTH

The **UP4HEALTH**, a project funded by the European Union with a duration of 55 months, that aims to pioneer a sustainable biorefinery approach for converting plant-based waste into high-value functional ingredients, contributing to a circular economy and offering innovative solutions for the nutraceutical and cosmetic industries.

In **UP4HEALTH** the recovery of the value of food by-products will tackle objectives at private and institutional perspectives to solve industrial, economic and social problems derived from the generation of residual streams in the food processing industry and the increasing demand for natural and healthier products by consumers and industry in a scenario of limited resources.

The consortium is formed by 10 Partners from 5 European countries: ISANATUR SPAIN S.L. (Spain); Contactica S.L. (Spain); AMEREX. (Spain); AURORA. (Spain); VIDARA. (Spain); Universidad de Vigo. (Spain); BIOZON. (Germany); Technological University Dublin. (Ireland); Instituto Politécnico de Bragança– Centro de Investigação de Montanha. (Portugal); ZADE VITAL. (Turkey).

For further details on the **UP4HEALTH project** and its progress, please visit our website or contact:

Project Coordinator: innovation@isanatur.com

About ALEHOOP

ALEHOOP is an EU-funded project, which started in June 2020 and which counts on a consortium of 16 partners from 6 different countries: Spain, Germany, Belgium, Norway, Ireland and Czechia. It is an Innovation Action that received funding from the BBI-JU.



The project will last until February 2025. About BBI-JU: the Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking (BBI-JU), now known as Circular Bio-Based Europe Joint Undertaking (CBE-JU), is a partnership between the European Union and the Bio-Based Industries Consortium (BIC) to fund projects advancing competitive circular bio-based industries in Europe.

For further details on the **ALEHOOP project** and its progress, please visit our website or contact:

Project Coordinator: alehoop@contactica.es